

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney
Karen P. Hewitt***

For Further Information, Contact: Assistant U. S. Attorney AnnaLou Tirol, 619-557-7854

For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - February 26, 2007

United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced that Jonathan Scott Rachels was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in San Diego by the Honorable Thomas J. Whelan to serve 51 months in custody, based on Rachels' conviction for armed bank robbery. Judge Whelan also ordered that Rachels serve a four-year term of supervised release following his release from prison and pay restitution to the bank.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney AnnaLou Tirol, who prosecuted the case, Rachels pled guilty to the bank robbery offense on September 18, 2006. Court documents establish that on May 2, 2006, Rachels entered the Bank of America, located at 295 E Street, Chula Vista, California, and demanded money from one of the bank's tellers. During the robbery, Rachels pulled a machete out of his pants and shook it at the teller. In response to Rachels' threats and intimidation, the teller handed him \$2,979.00 in cash from a cash drawer. Rachels fled the bank and was arrested by officers from the Chula Vista Police Department later that day.

U.S. Attorney Hewitt praised the efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Chula Vista Police Department for their investigation and quick apprehension of the defendant.

DEFENDANT

Case Number: 06cr1048-W

Jonathan Scott Rachels

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2113(a) and (d) (Armed Bank Robbery)

INVESTIGATING AGENCIES

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Chula Vista Police Department